

# Muscogee

## Nation News

April 15, 2012  
Vol. 42, Issue 8

Official semi-monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

# National Council fails to override Kialegee veto

**Sterling Cospers**  
*MNN Reporter*

OKMULGEE — A regular session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council was held Saturday March 31, 2012. Topping the agenda was an item to override Principal Chief George Tiger's veto of Tribal Resolution 12-020, which was passed by the council March 8, 2012.

The override failed by a vote of 10 in favor to 5 opposed.

This resolution objected to the Kialegee Tribal Town's claim of jurisdiction on the Muscogee (Creek) allotment owned by Marcella Giles and her sister, Wynema Capps, and their attempt to place a casino on this property.

A 2/3 majority is required for an override to be successful. The full council, including the speaker, who does not vote in any other instance except a tie, votes during an override. Absent representatives as well as the speaker are considered in this majority. Therefore, 12 of the 17 council members were required to vote in favor of the resolution for it to pass.

Before the veto, TR 12-020 was passed by a vote of 9 in favor, 4 against and 1 abstention.

Rep. Nichols was the first of several representatives who explained their position on the bill before the vote.

"We have to look at the whole population of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to protect their rights, their programs and be able to fund other



MNN/Sterling Cospers  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger addresses the MCN National Council regarding the Kialegee Tribal Town's proposed Red Clay Casino to be located in Broken Arrow, Okla.

programs like we have on the agenda today. If we stand to lose \$20 or \$30 million they [Kialegee Tribal Town] are really going to impact our programs. Educational, health everything involved, for the elders, for the youth. We spoke of building new things for the elders and increasing educational funds for the youth," said Nichols.

Rep. Wind gave her statement after Nichols.

"I feel like we stepped into a state-

ment that was not needed at this point and for those reasons outlined by the chief, I certainly support the veto," said Wind.

According to the objection given with his veto, Tiger's office was not notified before the emergency session March 8, 2012. Tiger also noted that he was not given an agenda for the session where TR 12-020 was passed. He explained how this action failed to honor his prior understanding with

the committee, and how the additional time requested would have been useful.

"The adoption of TR 12-020 violated the Business, Finance and Justice Committee's agreement to give me an additional 30 days to respond to a tribal resolution on the Kialegee matter.

SEE KIALEGEE - 2

## Hundreds awaiting foster and adoptive care in the MCN

**Sterling Cospers**  
*MNN Reporter*

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Foster Care and Adoption Program is looking for qualified tribal citizens to provide care for Native children who have been removed from their homes and placed under state or tribal supervision.

Foster and adoption recruiter Tammi Reed-Barnett explained how much this need has grown within a year.

"Since I've been here in September, we've gone from around 15 available adoptions to about 40."

Not included in those numbers are Muscogee (Creek) children who are only eligible for foster care, and those who are in state custody.

"In tribal custody, we have 73 children, in state custody we have, I think, about 288 Creek children," said Barnett.

According to Barnett, foster and adoption care go hand-in-hand.

"The child must be fostered for six months before they can be adopted. Just to make sure it is a good fit for the child and the parents. After the six months that the child has lived in the home and the termination hearing has went through, the foster family is the first available who can pick," she said.

SEE ADOPT - 4

## Creek police cars don't die, they get donated

**Gary Fife**  
*MNN Editorial Assistant*

OKMULGEE — When a Lighthorse police vehicle reaches a point that it gets replaced, what happens to it? Those that are still serviceable are given to another local police department.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police donates surplus vehicles to small town departments that use the cars. For those departments, a late model used Lighthorse car may be the newest vehicle in their fleets, with the lowest mileage. They also may increase those fleets by 25 to 30 percent.

Lighthorse Police Chief Richard Fixico said the donations still help Creeks, "When we surplus these to the smaller agencies, it still assists our citizens, because these smaller towns have a larger (Creek) citizen base within their cities, so we feel like when we donate these vehicles to local agencies, they are still serving our citizens."

SEE LIGHTHORSE - 6

# MCN represented at 198th anniversary of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend

**Media Release**  
*MCN Museum and Cultural Center*

HORSESHOE BEND, Ala. — On March 24, 2012, a delegation from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation participated in the 198th anniversary of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. This annual event commemorates the importance of the battle in the shared history between the United States and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Activities at the event provided a better understanding of the battle participants and the reasons why it took place through a variety of special interpretive programs.

Muscogee representation included Senior Services Manager David Dunson and 41 elders who chartered Red Hicks to captain the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tour bus for the trip. Further representation extended from MCN Chief of Staff Edwin Marshall, National



MCN/Justin Giles  
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation sent a delegation to Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, Ala., for the 198th anniversary and re-enactment of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. The delegation sang Creek hymns for those in attendance.

Council Second Speaker Cherrah Ridge and departmental representatives from the Muscogee Nation Museum & Cultural Center, Tourism & Recreation, Cultural Preservation as well as other individual Muscogee citizens.

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend

was a pivotal battle in Muscogee history. The battle pitted Upper Creeks, or "Red Sticks," against the United States and Gen. Andrew Jackson who sought to clear the Alabama territory of its Muscogee inhabitants for American settlement.

SEE BEND - 5

### MNN 2 - LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

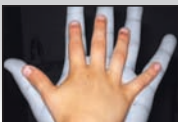


### MNN 3 - CALENDAR

MCN Food Distribution Program Open House set for April 30

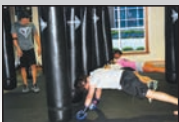
### MNN 4 - PROGRAMS

MCN Adoption and Foster Care Program



### MNN 5 - TOURISM

Longacre brings excitement to fitness community



### MNN 6 - CAPITOL NEWS

Lighthorse Police donates surplus vehicles





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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

**The Muscogee Nation News** is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

To submit a change of address or a letter to the editor, call (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: [wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov)



## Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — I hope everyone got to eat lots of holiday favorites this past weekend. As for me, I like my eggs devilish and my onions wild.

I'm sure I'm not the only one who is sad to see the wild onion season slowly fading. I'm taking solace in the fact that the 2012 Muscogee (Creek) Festival season is right around the corner.

Have you heard that Gladys Knight and the Temptations will be performing on Saturday night? It should be a great show.

And don't think MCN Tourism and Recreation forgot about country night. They have a fantastic headliner for Friday night that you definitely won't want to miss out on. Let's just say it will make you a "Crazy Girl" if you love country music.

Mvto to those of you have followed us on Twitter and "liked" us on Facebook already. It's great to hear from citizens and share their events and happenings with other tribal members. "Like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MuscogeeNation-News> and Follow us on Twitter at [https://twitter.com/#!/The\\_MNN](https://twitter.com/#!/The_MNN)

Oh, and don't forget to send us those graduation announcements by May 25.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at [RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov)



## Kialegee

Continued from Page 1

On March 8, 2012 my flight was delayed and I was unable to attend the emergency session where I would have advised the National Council of my meetings in Washington D.C., on the subject matter of this resolution," Tiger's objection stated.

Tiger explained what he believed to be a premature response to the issue.

"Also, I had been in constant discussion with our tribal towns on ways to solve these issues that will work to the benefit of our people. We should be very deliberate and thoughtful in voicing opinions on these sensitive issues," Tiger's objection stated.

Kialegee Tribal Town King (Meeko) Tiger Hobia spoke briefly at the council session.

"We are getting to the point where we can sit down and say, 'This is what the whole Creek Nation and the tribal towns deserve,'" he said.

Tiger followed Hobia and gave a statement at the session before the vote.

"If you really want to know the truth, I as a Principal Chief, you as a council, we are the new kids on the block. Our tribal towns are much older, [and more] experienced than your form of government," he said.

He also referred to a quote by tribal elders.

"I remember our elders say-

ing, 'There is going to be a day in our lifetimes, because of money, we'll be fighting against each other.' That was their message and I see this. My objection was not to cause any division," said Tiger.

Tiger expanded on this statement.

"We heard from Rep. Nichols on amount of monies that we could possibly lose at River Spirit. My objection isn't about that, my objection is; we gave our word as a government to allow the opportunity for us to work together. As Muscogee (Creek) people, we are unique. Nowhere in this country is there another nation that has four nations within a nation," he said.

He shared one final thought in his

statement during the council session.

"All the amounts of monies that have been talked about, millions of dollars, I know one thing, as Muscogee (Creek) people, our word is priceless," Tiger said.

Representatives in favor of the legislation were: David Nichols, Darrell Proctor, Sam Alexander, Pete Beaver, Franklin Coachman, David Hill, Robert Hufft, Keeper Johnson, Eddie Lagrone and Kara Medina.

Representatives opposed were: Pearl Thomas, Lena Wind, Thomas Yahola, Shirlene Ade and Johnnie L. Greene.

Reps. Cherrah Ridge and Adam Jones III were absent.

DISTRICT COURT  
FILED  
2012 MAR 15 PM 12 16

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship )  
of the Person and Estate of )  
K. M. H. )  
Minor Child. )

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
DONNA BEAVER  
Case No. GD-2012-168K

SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Unknown Father

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2012-168K, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: K.M.H., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner or appear on the 2nd day of May, 2012, at 9:30 o'clock a. m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,  
Okmulgee District  
By: Jobie King  
(Deputy)

Approved:  
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641  
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165  
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543  
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642  
MCN Citizen Legal Services  
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-1112 Telephone  
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile  
*Attorneys for Petitioner*

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of: )  
MILLIE HILL, )  
Petitioner, )  
vs. )  
ALVIN HULBUTTA, )  
Respondent. )

Case No. DV-2012-16

SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Alvin Hulbutta

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2012-16, styled In re the Marriage of Mille Hill, Petitioner and Alvin Hulbutta, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012 at 1:30 o'clock p. m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of Feb., 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District  
By: Jobie King  
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of McClISH: )  
CATHY ELIZABETH McCLISH, )  
Petitioner, )  
vs. )  
MICHAEL McCLISH, SR., )  
Respondent. )

Case No. DV-2012-02

SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Michael McClish, Sr.

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2012-02, styled In re the Marriage of Cathy Elizabeth McClish, Petitioner and Michael McClish, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2012 at 9:30 o'clock a. m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 29<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District  
By: Shannon Mullenathan  
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
T.T., DOB: 08/25/2006 )  
N.T., DOB: 06-16-01 )  
A.T., DOB: 03-28-03 )  
Alleged Deprived Children. )

DISTRICT COURT  
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MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
DONNA BEAVER  
Case No. MS-2012-10948K  
COURT CLERK

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Wesley Taylor, Natural Father

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

C. J. Byrd  
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF: )  
DIANE COOPER, )  
Petitioner )  
vs. )  
JOHN COOPER, )  
Respondent. )

Case No. DV-2010-120

SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: John Cooper

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2010-120, styled In re the Marriage of Diane Cooper, Petitioner and John Cooper, Respondent, *Application for Civil Indirect Contempt*. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to a judgment from you based on the grounds of indirect contempt for the total amount of \$75,000.00.

You are notified that you must appear at the hearing on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. Failure to attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Application* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Application*.

Given under my hand and seal this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk  
By: Shannon Mullenathan  
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:  
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642  
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165  
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543  
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641  
MCN Citizen Legal Services  
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-1112

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Paternity of KALEB CURTIS )  
HICKS: )  
KOLEPAH BERRYHILL, )  
Petitioner, )  
and )  
RYAN CURTIS HICKS, )  
Respondent. )

DISTRICT COURT  
FILED  
2012 MAR 15 PM 11 19

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
DONNA BEAVER  
Case No. CV-2011-1589  
COURT CLERK

Before Gregory Bigler  
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Ryan Curtis Hicks

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV-2011-158, styled In re the Paternity of Kaleb Curtis Hicks, Petitioner and Ryan Curtis Hicks, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Paternity Determination and Order for Child Support Custody and Visitation* from you.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012 at 1:30 o'clock p. m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District  
By: Jobie King  
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

# CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Indian taco sale set for April 21

TULSA — Muscogee (Creek) attendees of the 2012 National Indian Conference on Aging will be holding an Indian Taco Sale fund raiser April 21, 2012 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The sale will be held at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center located at 8611 S. Union in Tulsa.

A taco, drink and dessert are \$8, and a silent auction will also be held. Proceeds will be used to attend the conference.

For more information call (918) 298-2464.

## CMN calls for commentary by April 21, 2012

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency.

CMN will host a visit May 21-23, 2012, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation. The public may submit comments on the Commission's Web Site at [www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org)

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs and must be in writing and received by April 21, 2012.

## Arts and crafts fair fund raiser set for April 21

OKEMAH — A fund raiser for the second annual Spirit of Oklahoma Football Camp will be held as an Arts & Crafts Fair April 21, 2012 in Okemah, Okla., at the Okfuskee

County Fairgrounds.

The public is invited to browse and purchase items from a variety of vendors, from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Besides pre-registration for the camp, a silent auction is available for authentic autographed posters of former OU greats like Sam Bradford, Brian Bozworth, Ryan Broyles, Barry Switzer and others.

The funds raised for this event will be used to offset the costs of the camp including: advertisements, coaches' honorariums, reproduction-copies, T-shirts for participants and coaches, food, drinks and other costs related to conducting the event.

For more information, contact Sandi Golden 405-786-2635 or 918-623-6437.

## Resilient Farmer Workshop set for April 28

POTEAU — The Resilient Farmer Workshop is set for Sat., April 28, 2012 at the Kerr Center. The event is from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., at Kerr Center Stewardship Ranch.

Registration/check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Please register by April 23, 2012, as space is limited.

At this workshop participants will learn about innovative approaches to building soil fertility and becoming more self-sufficient on the farm.

Emphasis will be on using innovative approaches to building soil fertility for sustainable market farming.

Cost is \$35 and includes lunch. Further details are on the Kerr Center Web site at: <http://kerrcenter.com/joomla/eventlist/details/137-the-resilientfarmer-workshop>.

Participants may register by contacting the Kerr Center at 918-674-9123 or via email: [mailbox@kerrcenter.com](mailto:mailbox@kerrcenter.com)

## Children's Mental Health Awareness Day set for Wednesday May 9, 2012

SAPULPA — Mental, emotional, and behavioral issues are real. They can be very painful, and challenging. These concerns are a source of stress for children and their families, schools, and communities.

The number of children and their families who are affected by mental, emotional, and behavioral challenges is significant. It is estimated that as many as one in five children and adolescents may have a mental health challenge that can be identified and require treatment.

What are the causes of mental illness? Through research, it is becoming clear that many of these conditions are caused by biology, psychological and environment, or a combination.

Some examples of biological aspects are genetics, chemical imbalances in the body and damage to the central nervous system, such as defects to certain areas of the brain.

Psychological factors include, server trauma suffered as a child, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse. Many environmental aspects also can affect your mental health, including exposure to violence, extreme stress, and the loss of an important person.

Families and communities working together can help children, and adolescents with mental health challenges.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse program has a range of services to meet the necessary needs of children and their families.

To help support your local community efforts to raise awareness about children's mental health please contact Lindsley Harry, Social Mar-

keting Coordinator at (918) 224-9307. Protecting the Future (CMHI grant) will provide presentations and brochures to promote public education concerning mental health.

## Spirit of Oklahoma Football Camp set for July 6-7

WELEETKA — The second annual Spirit of Oklahoma Football Camp is set for July 6-7, 2012 at the Weleetka Football Field in Weleetka.

University of Oklahoma Sooners Football great Jamelle Holieway and friends will be conducting the one-day camp for youth ages 8-16.

The camp is geared to host youth within the 35-40 mile radius of Weleetka.

Last year, the camp was host to 106 youth and the numbers are expected to double for 2012.

For more information, contact Sandi Golden 405-786-2635 or 918-623-6437.

## MCN Food Distribution Program Open House set for April 30

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program will celebrate 30 years of service on Monday, April 30, 2012.

An open house will begin at 11 a.m., at the food distribution site located at 3001 N. Wood Dr., in Okmulgee. Guests will enjoy a program including employee service recognition, flute music from Pastor Nelson Harjo and refreshments made from commodities.

Tours will be provided immediately following the ceremony to be conducted by Edwin Marshall and Principal Chief George Tiger.

The MCN is one of only four tribes in Oklahoma to have multiple food Distribution sites for clients.

The program serves all 11 counties within the MCN jurisdiction and over 3,000 people each month. The program also provides home deliveries to elder and disabled clients and tailgates to three sites each month. The program employs 16 staff, with two having over 25 years experience.

For more information, please contact Anna Cruce at 918-732-2402.

## Graduate edition deadline set for Friday, May 25

**Rebecca Landsberry**  
*MNN Editor*

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation News will be featuring 2012 Muscogee (Creek) Nation graduates in an upcoming summer edition.

Graduate submissions should include full name of graduate, school, university or technical institution, parents, ceremonial ground, church, tribal town, clan and any awards/accomplishments (150 word limit).

A recent digital photo should also be included with graduate's information, which must be submitted via e-mail no later than Friday, May 25, 2012. Submissions should be sent to [glife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:glife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov)

For more information, please contact Gary Fife at 918-732-7643.



### RIB BASKET \$6<sup>50</sup>

Ribs, Fries, Baked Beans & Texas Toast

### RIBS (FULL SLAB) \$15<sup>50</sup>



### STEAK & SHRIMP \$12<sup>25</sup>

10 oz. New York Strip, 6 Jumbo Fried Shrimp Salad and Hot Roll

### CHICKEN FRIED STEAK \$6<sup>25</sup>

Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable & Roll

### BRISKET SANDWICH

Sliced \$5<sup>50</sup>

Chopped Beef \$5<sup>25</sup>



From some good ole smoked BBQ to your favorite comfort foods, we are serving it all up in a whole new way.

Hand cut steaks, Brisket and Ribs smoked right here at the casino. You'll love the food and at a price that can't be beat!

Stop by or call in your order today at the Council Oak Cafe located inside the One Fire Casino.

(918)756.8400



HWY 75. & EUFAULA ST • OKMULGEE, OK  
918.756.8400 • [WWW.ONEFIRECASINO.COM](http://WWW.ONEFIRECASINO.COM)

THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

## Adopt

Continued from Page 1

According to the mission statement the goal of the Foster Care Program is:

“To provide a temporary home for minor children removed from the home of their natural parent[s], custodians or guardians due to abuse and/or neglect, and who have been or will be deprived or are voluntarily placed with the consent of their natural parents...”

A priority of the program is to keep the children with their original family. The biological parents of the children in state or tribal custody are often put into treatment programs by the court in an effort to give them a chance to correct the behavior that has deemed them unfit. It is during this period, that children are only eligible for foster care.

The fostering part of the program is just as important as adoption.

“I’ve not seen an adoption go through since September. We don’t have parental rights terminated every day. A lot of them [birth parents] will drag it out as long as they can. I’ve had kids that were four when they got in the system and they’re 14 and ready to be adopted,” said Barnett.

The program offers a stipend that covers financial burdens the child has while they are in foster care.

If the parent has failed to convince officials that they are capable of caring for their children, their parental rights are then terminated. Another member of the children’s family can still take custody at this point. It is only after every means of keeping the children with their family has failed that they can be considered for adoption.

It is this extensive process from foster care to adoption that makes the final step of finding the child a permanent home, so difficult.

“They’ve been moved around so much that it is hard to place them,” said Barnett.

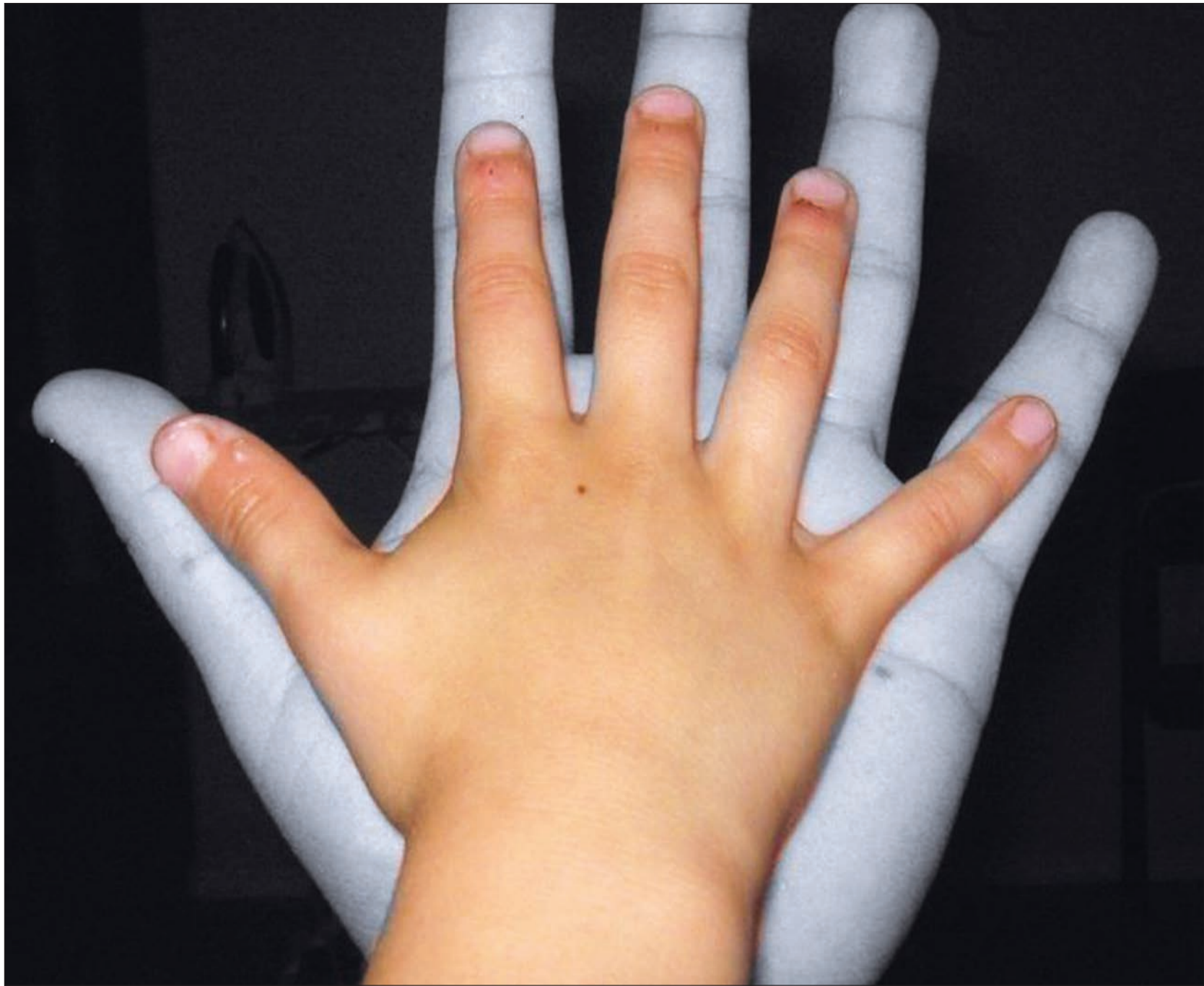
Barnett pointed out how this problem leads to one of the program’s greatest needs.

“We direly need placement and adoption homes for older children. They’re good kids; of course they have trust issues. They’ve been moved around a lot. Maybe they’ve been told mom and dad are doing well and they fall off the wagon or start doing something bad again. We find out about it and they don’t get to go home,” she said.

Some of the realities of this program can lead to misconceptions by those looking to adopt.

“We usually don’t just go in and take them as babies. We try to give the parents every opportunity to do right. Most people have in their mind when they are looking to adopt that they want this little baby. The only little one I’ve seen since September was a little three-day old baby girl. We had plenty of homes that wanted that little baby,” said Barnett.

Even this child was not ever eligible for adoption.



MNN/Darren DeLaune

There are currently 288 Muscogee (Creek) children of all ages in foster and adoptive custody in the state of Oklahoma. Parents need not be perfect to provide a loving home for these children.

**“We direly need placement and adoption homes for older children. They’re good kids. . .”**

**— Tammi Reed-Barnett,  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Adoption and Foster Care Program**

“That baby didn’t get to stay long. It’s kind of like, don’t get your heart too attached but love that baby while you’ve got it. Maybe the mom starts doing right, or a family member might show up out of the woodwork, and we have to give that child to the family member,” said Barnett.

People hoping to adopt younger children may also want to consider another issue.

“Another thing I wanted people to know is a lot of our adoptions are multiple children homes. Maybe we’ll have a placement situation for four kids, and we want to keep them together. They may be three, four and five-years-old,” said Barnett.

There are many other misconceptions Barnett wishes to clarify as well.

“People need to know that if you are out-of-state, you cannot foster or adopt because we cannot monitor the [living] situation,” she said.

She explained some other common misunderstandings about the application process.

“I get people that will fill out the request for application, out of 10 of those, I will get one back. They think they want to do it and then they get to read the

rules and regulations. They see, ‘Oh I can’t spank that kid, I can’t take that kid to church if they don’t want to go,’” said Barnett.

In order to provide the best homes for the children, the application for adoption is extensive and delves into personal aspects of applicants’ lives.

Potential applicants should not be discouraged, however.

“We just want the kid out of the bad situation that they are in. We want someone that wants to help and care and has time for a child in their life,” said Barnett.

The children share Barnett’s feelings on their own placement.

“From what I’ve seen, these kids just want a home. I had one little boy tell me all he wanted was a mom who took care of him, protected him and cooked well,” said Barnett.

Another one of Barnett’s goals is to place children in homes with knowledge of native culture.

“It is my mission to keep the tradition alive, to keep the kids with the natives. I like the natives that maybe go to the stomp dances, not that it’s a preference, but people that like to go to stuff that’s going on with the Creek Nation

and talk about old times,” she said.

The Indian Child Welfare Act is federal legislation that supports this mission to place native children in the system back into native foster and adoptive homes. However, the children are not limited to placement with their specific tribe.

“We do get calls from the Cherokee tribe if they have some children that they just can’t place. We also get calls from Choctaw, Seminole, on native Children that need to be placed. Those needs are always adoption; it’s never a foster situation,” said Barnett.

There are many kids within the system looking for permanent homes. A lifetime commitment is not required to help the Foster Care and Adoption Program and its children.

“I would like to see more people step up and do something. Not necessarily adopt. The foster end is really a great need. We really need respite homes we need emergency placement homes, people who will take a child home overnight until we can find somebody. On the foster side, maybe just somebody that can take a kid to Eufaula during the weekend,” said Barnett.

Adoption.com defines respite care as:

“Temporary or short-term home care of a child that is provided, by adults other than the birth parents, foster parents, or adoptive parents that the child normally resides with, which is designed to give the parents some time away from the child, and even the child some time away from the parents, to allow them to emotionally recharge and become better prepared to handle the normal day-to-

day challenges of parenting.”

According to Barnett, even these little efforts can have an impact.

“It makes a huge difference, if they have somebody they can go see on the weekend. To their ego, it just makes them stand a little straighter and smile a little wider,” she said.

The need for homes has increased, but so has the efforts of the program. Barnett has been busy advocating for her program since her hire date in September.

“I’ve gone so far as to be on KVOO, I’ve been on the radio with Creek Nation. I’ve got ads running on the phone lines here when you are on hold. I’ve tried every resource known to man. I take it home with me at night. I will call that kid maybe at night and ask if they are all right and let them know I was thinking about them,” she said.

She has no intention of slowing down.

“I feel like there is a lot more out there that I haven’t reached yet,” said Barnett.

Despite this feeling and the increasing need, Barnett believes she is making progress.

“The word is getting out. At all the events I always talk. I say ‘I want to tell you guys how many kids need homes and where these kids are going – it’s group homes. ‘Is that really what we want as a tribe?’” she asked.

For more information on the Foster Care and Adoption Program contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services at 800-521-5432, 918-732-7869.

Change a life.  
Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent



Children. Keepers of our tradition.

**Preserve our heritage, become a foster/adoption parent today. In the State of Oklahoma, there are Muscogee Creek Children in state and tribal custody looking for a place to call “cuko” (home). Become a Foster/Adoptive tribal home.**

**For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett  
at (918)732-7883 OR email: [tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov)**



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# Longacre brings excitement to fitness community



MNN/Christina Good Voice  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Thomas “Thunderkick” Longacre (pictured at left) will host the grand opening for his gym, Thunderkick Fitness, located at 8660 S. Peoria, in Tulsa, Okla., Saturday, May 5.

Darren DeLaune  
MNN Sports Reporter

TULSA – Thomas “Thunderkick” Longacre is moving back to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and he is bringing something with him to help out the martial arts community and people who are looking to get in shape. He is bringing his gym, Thunderkick Fitness, to Oklahoma.

“Thunderkick Fitness is open, I’m back and the gym is here,” the 34-year-old MCN citizen said.

Longacre is a well-known fighter who competes in mixed martial arts competitions throughout the country. For the past six years, Longacre has lived in Tyler, Texas, where the first Thunderkick Fitness gym opened in 2010. He helped the community with martial arts programs such as Beginning MMA, Advanced MMA, cardio kickboxing and children’s martial arts programs for ages 4-12.

Longacre said he felt the need to give back to the communities where he grew up. Longacre grew up in Kellyville, Okla. He said he feels his gym would be a great addition to Indian Country. Longacre then made the decision to move back to Oklahoma permanently and to open Thunderkick Fitness.

“Being back among the people that I have been raised around and to be able to give them the opportunity to learn MMA or to get in shape is a great feeling,” Longacre said.

While the gym is now in Tulsa, Okla., he still has his MMA team in Texas and will be traveling to help and support his team when they have competitions.

While Longacre has been working to get his gym open the past few months, it did not slow him down from also going out into the communities and speaking to the youth. Longacre has been speaking at his alma mater, Kellyville High School, and a juvenile detention center in Enid, Okla., to share his experiences growing up.

“Coming from the Kellyville, Creek County area, it is good to share my experiences of my life and my career and to let them know that even though you come from a small area you can make something of yourself,” Longacre said.

Longacre and his staff teach a variety of martial arts styles.

“I teach a style that I was raised on which is more of a taekwondo and a Goju-Ryu style,” Longacre said. “I also want to teach other styles such as boxing, wrestling, kickboxing, and MMA.”

Longacre wants to combine all the specialties into one to help make a true mixed martial artist.

“I do not want to be a one-dimensional fighter. I want to challenge my students to not be as well. To make themselves better in not just one specialty, but many, and to adapt to any situation.”

Many people may believe that mixed martial arts encourages violence, but Longacre said it does the opposite.

“We do not teach our students to go out and start fights,” he said. “We teach them how to defend themselves in case they have no choice. A lot of our fight stances will show us with our hands up.”

Longacre said that stance shows the person is avoiding confrontation.

“If and only when they cannot get out of a situation is when they have to defend themselves,” Longacre said.

Being a well-known fighter, many ask when he will fight again.

Longacre said his next fight will probably be in the fall.

“Right now my focus is on my gym to make sure it is successful getting people to learn what I learn, get in shape and have a great time doing that,” he said.

For more information about Thunderkick Fitness and what programs it has to offer, call 918-528-3241. Thunderkick Fitness is at 8660 S. Peoria, Tulsa, Okla., or email Thomas@thunderkickfitness.com.

Grand opening for Thunderkick Fitness is May 5.

## Bend

Continued from Page 1

As stated on the National Park Service Horseshoe Bend website, “In the spring [March 27] of 1814, Gen. Andrew Jackson and an army of 3,300 men attacked 1,000 Upper Creek warriors on the Tallapoosa River. Over 800 Upper Creeks died defending their homeland. Never before or since in the history of our country have so many American Indians lost their lives in a single battle...”

After opening remarks from the Park Superintendent, the Muscogee delegation was introduced and sang two Muscogee hymns to the crowd of visitors. Marshall then delivered a message of gratitude from Principal Chief Tiger stating, “We are very much grateful to the National Park Service for preserving and telling the history of Horseshoe Bend. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation anticipates and looks forward to the continued collaboration and participation with the National Park

Service as we approach the Bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in 2014.”

Ridge also delivered a similar message conveying the “continued importance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to maintain a cultural presence within our homelands of Alabama.”

In similar spirit of Tiger and Ridge’s message of collaboration and cultural sharing, the Muscogee delegation conducted a social stomp dance demonstration marking the direct cultural ties the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has to Horseshoe Bend and our ancestral homelands in Alabama.

Additionally, the Muscogee delegation was able to finish the day visiting Fort Toulouse in nearby Wetumpka, Ala. Fort Toulouse, also known as Fort Jackson, is the site where the Treaty of Fort Jackson was signed following the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was forced to cede nearly 23 million acres of homelands to the United States.



MCN/Justin Giles  
Pictured above is the Muscogee (Creek) delegation which traveled to Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, Ala., in March.

# MUSCOGEE NATION

## 38th annual Festival 2012

**FRI 6 • 8**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Miss/Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant**

**SAT 6 • 23**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Golf Tournament—Fountainhead**

**5k Walk/Run**

**Fast Pitch Softball Tournament**

**Horseshoe Tournament**

**Youth 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**

**Children’s Corn Stalk Shoot**

**Volleyball Tournament**

**INFR Rodeo—SLACK**

**Safety Seat Check—MCN Complex**

**Council House Indian Art Festival**

**—Council House Museum**

**Festival Parade, 6th Street**

**Children’s Fun Fair**

**Arts & Crafts/Food Vendors**

**Creek Hymn/Gospel Singing**

**—MCN Complex**

**Traditional Corn Stalk Shoot**

**—MCN Complex**

**All-Indian Rodeo Finals**

**The TEMPTATIONS**

**GLADYS KNIGHT**

**FRI 6 • 15**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Slow Pitch Softball Tournament**

**9:00**

**SAT 6 • 16**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Slow Pitch Softball Tournament**

**9:00**

**Adult 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**

**11:00**

**Muscogee Royalty Reception**

**—Council House Museum**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Creeks Got Talent—Okmulgee High School**

**Auditorium**

**9:00-Noon**

**9:30-4:30**

**10:00 a.m.**

**11:00**

**2:00-6:00 p.m.**

**3:00**

**6:00-9:00**

**7:00**

**9:00**

**SUN 6 • 17**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Slow Pitch Softball Tournament—Finals**

**THU 6 • 21**

**Noon**

**Cornstalk Range Open—MCN Complex**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Stomp Dance—MCN Complex**

**FRI 6 • 22**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Golf Tournament—Fountainhead**

**HWY 150, Checotah, OK**

**Junior Olympics—Harmon Stadium**

**Senior Citizens Activities—Senior**

**Housing, Polokse Circle**

**Traditional Skills—MCN Complex**

**Children’s Fun Fair**

**Arts & Crafts/Food Vendors**

**Fast Pitch Softball Tournament**

**INFR Rodeo**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT TBA**

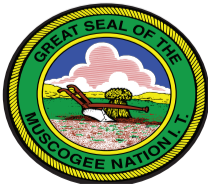
**SUN 6 • 24**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Fast Pitch Softball Tournament—Finals**

**All events, unless otherwise noted, will occur at the Claude Cox Omnplex & Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena (behind MCN Travel Plaza/ Burger King, NW corner of HWY 75 & SH-56 Loop intersection—Okmulgee, OK)**

**\*ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**



*Awepruks!*  
(ah-wē’ buks) Everyone come!

918.732.7992 | [toufism@MuscogeeNation-nsn.gov](mailto:toufism@MuscogeeNation-nsn.gov)

[www.MuscogeeNation-nsn.gov](http://www.MuscogeeNation-nsn.gov)



All Festival visitors agree that entry into any of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival events constitutes consent for the MCN Tourism & Recreation Department to use any film, photographs, video or reproduction of image and/or voice bearer for any purpose whatsoever without any payment to the visitor. Visitors shall not sell, dispense, or consume any form of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages during any MCN Festival related events. Pets are not allowed at any MCN Festival related events. Thank you for your cooperation. Mvto!

## Cancer Care Community Education offered in Eufaula through May

Media Release  
MCN Division of Health

EUFULA — The Native Navigators will host cancer continuum sessions at the Eufaula Indian Community Center (Skate Zone) beginning April 9, 2012 with a family fun event.

The 12 educational workshops will continue through May 31. Sessions will be held every Monday and Thursday for six weeks.

NNACC has completed two workshop sessions, Okmulgee and Holdenville areas, with a great response.

Okmulgee had a total of 203 participants with an average attendance of 60 per session.

Holdenville had a total of 68 participants with an average of 40 per session.

The navigators are Loretta Denny (918) 441-6049 and Patricia Coachman (918) 441-6048, office (918) 758-2710. Debra Isham is the project manager.

Everyone 18 years or older will receive a \$10 gift card after each session for participation.

Location: Eufaula Indian Community Center (Skating Ring) 800 Birks Rd., Eufaula

- Dates: April 9 – June 4, 2012  
Time: 6 – 8 p.m.  
Family Fun Event:  
Monday, April 9  
Overview:  
Thursday, April 12 - Cancer  
100  
Prevention:  
Monday, April 16 – Energy  
Balance  
Thursday, April 19 – Healthy  
Eating  
Monday, April 30 – Exposure  
to Environmental Contaminants  
Early Detection:  
Thursday, May 3– Get on the  
Path to Breast Health  
Monday, May 7 – Get on the  
Path to Colon Health  
Thursday, May 10 – Get on the  
Path to Lung Health  
Monday, May 14 – Get on the  
Path to Cervix Health  
Thursday, May 17 - Get on the  
Path to Prostate Health  
Survivorship:  
Monday, May 21 – Side Effects  
Thursday, May 31– Survivors’  
Support Circles  
Comfort/Palliative Care  
Monday, June 4 – Wills & Advance Directive

## Lighthorse

Continued from Page 1



MNN/Gary Fife

Pictured above is Weleetka Police Chief Hub Pangle in the vehicle donated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department.

Small town police agencies that haven't received a Lighthorse vehicle donation in a while are the most likely to receive a car. These are usually local departments that Lighthorse may work with in some instances, so Fixico said he's glad to help them out. The result is an enhanced relationship between the two agencies. According to Fixico, "It seems like, when we can help them out, it does create a stronger bond with us. We're going to help each other regardless of equipment, just because we're the 'brothers-in-blue' and we're going to help other, no matter what."

Chief Joseph Dawson of the Morris Police Department is one of the recipients of a surplus Lighthorse unit. For the Morris police, the donation releases some budgetary pressure, "I'm sure, like most agencies, we're strapped by tax income. The economy is just bad right now. It's hard with our tax base, trying to make ends meet. So, this donation is incredible for us, a blessing. I can use my resources more for our community and to help our officers, as opposed to trying to get a new vehicle."

The Morris department currently has three other vehicles, all with an excess of 130,000 miles on them. Dawson

confirmed a close working relationship with the Muscogee Lighthorse, "I believe we've always had a great relationship with the Lighthorse Department. They have always been there when we've needed assistance with whatever call. We are a small department with one officer on at a time, so it helps us knowing there is somebody close that can be there within a few minutes."

Chief Hub Pangle of the Weleetka Police Department also received a do-

nation of a vehicle.

Pangle echoes the sentiments of Dawson, "With the cutbacks in the economy, these agencies don't have the resources or money to go out and purchase these vehicles for these small towns. With a donation like this, it keeps the department up and running."

The Weleetka department is so small that the officers purchase much of their own duty gear. A reliable vehicle increases the safety factor for officers and increases service to their local population.

He said, "We're not a very big community, but when you need to get to that call that somebody needs you, you've got to get there. This is the only way that we were capable of getting this duty done," Pangle said.

The police units are valued at about \$10,000 apiece when donated, so that represents a significant savings to small towns with small budgets. But the cars are not the only police inventory items that get a second life after being donated. Fixico listed inventory such as personal protection vests, belts, bags and other equipment and gear that has been donated.



MNN/Gary Fife

Pictured above from left to right is Weleetka Police Chief Hub Pangle, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Chief Richard Fixico, Morris Police Chief Joseph Dawson, Morris police officer Richard Phillips and MCN Lighthorse Sgt. Jerry Whitman.

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## RIVER SPIRIT Casino

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ON THE RIVER

# Primary election set for May 5, 2012; deadline for absentee ballot request forms is April 12

Media Release  
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — *Editor's note: In the last edition of the Muscogee Nation News, the headline noted that the primary election was set for April 12. This was incorrect. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this may have caused our readers.*

In order to comply with Article VI, Section 2 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, a Special Election will be held for Seat B in both Creek and Wagoner Districts.

The Special Primary Election will be May 5, 2012.

The Special General Election will be July 7, 2012, if necessary.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution was recently amended to state representation of the National Council to be reduced from 26 representatives to 16 representatives by the end of 2013 with staggered terms.

A General Election was held Nov. 5, 2011 to fill vacant seats of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council for the Palen-Kolypohkaken (17th) Session. George Tiger was sworn in

to office as Principal Chief Jan. 2, 2012 and vacated National Council Representative Seat B (Creek District) with approximately two years remaining.

An election was held for one seat for the Wagoner District for the next four years, and one seat remains vacant.

## VOTER REGISTRATION ELIGIBILITY

- ENROLLED CITIZEN
- 18 YEARS AND OLDER

ENROLLED CITIZENS; IF YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED A VOTER OF THE TRIBE CONTACT THE ELECTION BOARD BY CALLING 918-732-7631 OR 918-732-7736. THE REGISTRATION CLERK WILL MAIL YOU A VOTER'S REGISTRATION FORM OR YOU CAN COME BY THE ELECTION BOARD OFFICE LOCATED AT THE MAIN COMPLEX ACROSS FROM THE RECEPTION DESK. WE WILL NEED A COPY OF YOUR TRIBAL ENROLLMENT CARD.

## VOTER ADDRESS

ALL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REGISTERED VOTERS (PRECINCT AND ABSENTEE VOTERS), CONTACT THE ELECTION BOARD OFFICE AT 918/732-7631 OR 732-7736 TO MAKE SURE YOUR VOTER INFORMATION IS UP TO DATE. VOTER, IF YOU HAVE MOVED PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE OF THE NEW ADDRESS. IF YOU KNOW OF ANY VOTER WHO IS DECEASED, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE SO THAT HE/SHE CAN BE REMOVED FROM OUR FILES.

## ABSENTEE VOTING

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION BOARD ENCOURAGES REGISTERED VOTERS TO REGISTER OR CHANGE THEIR VOTING STATUS AS AN ABSENTEE VOTER IF THE CITIZEN; WORKS ON WEEKENDS, HAS CHILDREN ACTIVITIES ON SATURDAYS, WILL BE OUT OF TOWN ON ELECTION DAY, ANY ELDERLY WHO IS HOME BOUND AND ALSO TO MAKE IT CONVENIENT

FOR ALL REGISTERED VOTERS.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORMS WILL BE MAILED OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE REQUEST FORM MAY BE MAILED, EMAILED, FAXED OR BOUGHT IN PERSON TO THE ELECTION BOARD OFFICE. THE FORM MUST CONTAIN THE SIGNATURE OF THE VOTER. THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE IS VITAL TO THE ABSENTEE VOTING PROCESS.

## ELECTION DATES:

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE: APRIL 12, 2012 5 P.M.

ABSENTEE BALLOT MAIL OUT: APRIL 16, 2012

PRECINCT REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 25, 2012

PRIMARY ELECTION: MAY 5, 2012  
POLLS OPEN: 7 A.M.-7 P.M.

ABSENTEE/PRECINCT REGISTRATION RE-OPENS: MAY 10, 2012

GENERAL ELECTION: JULY 7, 2012  
POLLS OPEN: 7 A.M.-7 P.M.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE: JUNE 14, 2012 - 5 P.M.

ABSENTEE BALLOT MAIL OUT: JUNE 18, 2012

PRECINCT REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 27, 2012 - 5 P.M.

## PRECINCT VOTERS

ALL PRECINCT VOTERS; ON ELECTION DAY PLEASE VOTE AT THE PRECINCT POLLING SITE WHERE YOU ARE REGISTERED. IF UNSURE, CALL THE ELECTION BOARD OFFICE BEFORE ELECTION DAY AT 918/732-7631 OR 732-7736.

ELECTION DAY, IF YOU VOTE AT A DIFFERENT POLLING SITE OTHER THEN WHERE YOU'RE REGISTERED YOUR NAME WILL NOT BE LISTED ON THAT POLL BOOK. ALL POLLING SITES ARE OPEN 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

**SEE CANDIDATE PROFILES - 8**

## The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

**To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.**

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within five years of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

**FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT [www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov)**

**The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.**

## SAVE THE DATE

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation  
“Doing Business in Indian Country”**



**Continuing Legal Education Seminar  
River Spirit Events Center - Tulsa, OK  
Thursday and Friday – May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**

***“Celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Doing Business in Indian Country CLE! Recognized speakers will discuss the Past, Present, & Future of Tribal Courts including: Court Origin; Jurisdiction; Indian Gaming and Tort Claims; Indian Child Welfare and Tribal Child Support.”***

***Judge Gregory H. Bigler***

Attendees will receive ten (10) hours of CLE Credit (Includes 1 hour of ethics)  
Cost of Attendance- \$200.00

***\*Daily Rates Available – Contact the District Court for Additional Information***

✂-----

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **OBA Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Firm Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Completed Form and \$200.00 per registrant to:  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court  
2012 CLE Registration  
PO Box 652  
Okmulgee, OK 74447**

***\*The Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association Meeting will be held at 0600 PM on Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at Visions Buffet located inside River Spirit Casino. For More information regarding the MCN Bar Association contact Connie Dearman at 918-758-1439. Mvto!!***



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## Dode Barnett

### National Council - Creek District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Bird  
**Tribal Town:** Hecete Etlwv  
**Church:** Salt Creek UMC  
**Family:** Mother is Phyllis Bruner Warrington, maternal grandparents are the late Lizzie and George Bruner. I am blessed with four children; my eldest is in college; my younger three attend Sapulpa Public Schools.



**Education/Experience:** 1989 graduate of Sapulpa High School, 90 hours undergraduate work in Elementary Education and managerial workplace experience.

**Platform:** “ I would be honored to serve as a representative and humbly ask for your vote in the upcoming special election May 5, 2012. I was raised in Sapulpa and blessed with a family that loved, encouraged and taught me to serve others. I have served on our JOM and Title VII Parent Committees for several years. We must invest every available resource in our youth. What I lack in political experience, I make up for in perspective; I have experienced being failed by programs that do not always meet our citizens’ needs. What I lack in degrees, I offer a common sense approach and keep the greater good in mind on all decisions. I am community minded; strong communities build a strong nation. Each district is unique with it’s own needs and I would always keep this in mind. Accountability is vital to our success. Mvto, for your vote May 5!”

## Larry Thayer

### National Council - Creek District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Nokose (Bear)  
**Tribal Town:** Tuskegee  
**Church:** First United Methodist Church - Sapulpa  
**Family:** Wife of 27 years, Melissa and two children, Mindy and Tyler



**Education:** Associates of Science in Agriculture from North-eastern Oklahoma A&M and Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Oklahoma State University

**Experience:** Veteran of the 2/75th Ranger Battalion, Fort Lewis Washington, served as Sapulpa City Commissioner, SHOW Board member, Creek County Fair Board and on the Sapulpa Board of Education. “I am comfortable in dealing with multimillion dollar budgets. I also have been self-employed for 25 years in the retail business and I have a strong business background.”

**Platform:** Muscogee Creek Nation is a big business and should be treated as such. Maximizing revenue in all areas available, which include gaming, smoke shops, travel plazas, investments, and etc. are critical. Members have many needs that need to be met and the more revenue generated the better chance Muscogee Creek Nation has in fulfilling these needs. Running any successful business requires a strong accountability process, which can track all funds being spent. This can determine which entities are profitable and which are not. A good business plan is proactive not reactive. Let’s determine small problems before they turn into big problems. This is what I do everyday. Muscogee Creek Nation is doing okay, but I have never been satisfied with okay. We can do a lot better. I feel that I would be an asset to an already excellent council. New Face – New Ideas – Businessman

## Roman Watashe

### National Council - Creek District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Nokose (Bear)  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Polecat-Euchee  
**Church:** Picket Chapel, Little Cussetah Baptist Church Honorary Deacon; Royal Ambassador Leader  
**Family:** Two sons, Solomon and Ben Watashe



**Military Service:** Served and retired from the Marine Corps and the Army over 20 years as Platoon Sergeant.

**Education/ Experience:** Euchee Boarding School, Washington Public School, Senyca Indian School, Advance Schools Inc., Mobile Engines at OSU Okmulgee, Electrical Associated Independent, Electrical Journeyman and Contractor (4 years) and Reserve Law Enforcement School (2000 - 2001). Spent 27 years for Muscogee (Creek) Nation as security and law enforcement, 12 years as electrician for SECO Electric Company; three years as electrician for Tulsa County; over six years at Liberty Glass Plant in the decorating section; learned and performed all duties in the department including Regent and Foreman.

Served as a community leader by initiating the Kellyville Creek Nation Indian Community along with other community members to ensure representation of our community. Part of the group who began the Title 9 program at Kellyville Public Schools and served as the Chairman of the Parent Committee. As a result, Native American Indian History was taught as a part of the Kellyville curriculum, a first in Oklahoma.

**Goals:** “My main goal as representative is to serve and be the voice of tribal citizens. I will visit the communities to hear the concerns of citizens. I will work with other members of the Council to meet goals and work to preserve our sovereignty. As a member of the Council, I will provide information to citizens on casino profits and how they are being used. And finally, I want to listen to the elders of our nation for wisdom and our young people, who are the future, so we can be a successful nation.”

## Mark Randolph

### National Council - Wagoner District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Bird  
**Tribal Town:** Nuyakv  
**Church:** New Joy Indian Baptist  
**Family:** Mother Brenda (Noble) Walker, father Thomas Ray Randolph; maternal grandmother, Gertie (Tiger) Noble; Paternal grandmother, Patsy (Gray) Randolph, maternal great-grandparents: Ben Tiger and Sally (Smith) Tiger; paternal great grandparents: Mose Gray and Manoah (Bemo) Gray



**Education:** AA in Liberal Arts, Haskell Indian Junior College; Bachelors Degree in Social Work - University of Kansas; Masters of Social Work - University of Kansas

**Platform:** “Hensci Komakvte. As a young man, I was encouraged to achieve an education then return home to serve our people. As a servant leader, I believe prayer is our greatest strength and people are our number one resource. I believe all citizens should be entitled to services as stated in our tribal nation’s constitution, regardless of where they live. I will work to serve all citizens equally and to the best of my ability. I am a strong advocate for our children/youth; they are our key investment for our future. I love and respect our elders; they have made life possible for future generations with hard work, determination, resilience, and prayer. Our nation should provide for our golden age people in every way possible. Mvto for the votes of confidence in the 2011 election, it was a great experience. I am ready to serve the Mvskoke (Creek) people.”

## Frances Morgan

### National Council - Creek District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Wind  
**Church:** Montesoma Indian Baptist Church  
**Education:** A.A. from Bacone Junior College; attended North-eastern Oklahoma State University



**Platform:** “Housing, healthcare and education seem to be the ‘hot topics’ every election year. Changes in these programs take years. When changes do occur, a new administration comes in replacing the personnel and starting the whole process over. I want better, too. But, some entities are better managed away from the tribe. During these economic times, I believe our communities will have to rely on our own creativeness and energy to establish enterprises that will make us less dependent on the tribe for our basic needs. Sports and entertainment isn’t our priority. Revenue from our casinos is a good thing, but it’s not everything. Besides, things aren’t better due to so-called revenue. Our greatest assets are our employees who leave because of internal strife or higher pay. As your council person, I will not be shiesty, shaky or shady on voting. Your input will be invaluable and my voting will reflect that.”

## Dean Tiger

### National Council - Creek District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Wind (Hotvlkvlke)  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Hickory Ground (Loce Vpofv)  
**Church:** Yardeka Baptist Church



**Experience:** Served nine years on Kellyville Community Executive Committee - five years chairman and four years as vice chairman 2003-2012, Mvskoke language teacher

**Platform:** “When I declared my candidacy for this office, it was through much prayer and consideration. I did not just make a snap decision. After consulting with family and friends, I weighted how effective my voice would be in the National Council with the understanding that I will be serving the citizens of the Mvskoke Nation and them only. With a new administration in place, I believe we are at the threshold of a momentous opportunity to provide the types of changes and services that our people finally deserve. The preamble of our constitution states this: ‘Under the guidance of the Almighty God, our Creator, we are the people of the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation do promote unity.’ This sums it up; we are the people. We as a people must engage in this endeavor of seeing that every Mvskoke citizen is treated with the dignity and respect they deserve. Hvnymet cenponayvt cekicit os yehv vntat fvtconokis.”

## Barbara Gillespie

### National Council - Wagoner District

**Seat:** B  
**Clan:** Sweet Potato  
**Tribal Town:** Locvpokv  
**Church:** Davis Chapel  
**Family:** Parents are the late Mose Childers and Violet (Williams) Childers, Freeman



**Experience:** Served 12 years on the National Council; Business owner and operator for 13 years; real estate sales for 35 years; Wagoner County Economic Advisory Board, three years; Coweta Public Schools Indian Education Coordinator, six years.

**Platform:** “As Wagoner, Rogers and Mayes District representative, I have served as chairperson of the Tribal Affairs, Human Development, Community Services Committee and Vice-chairperson of the Fact Finding Committee of the National Council. Medical care, elder care, education, job training, language, tradition/cultural preservation and most of all economic development are priorities that are facing us today and will be in the future. It is a continuing battle to stay abreast of the ever increasing needs of the people, as our citizenship rolls continue to increase. I bring to the National Council, EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION. I ask for your vote and support to elect me to serve as your National Council representative from the Wagoner, Rogers and Mayes District. MVTO.”

# 2012 MCN voter precincts

#### Creek District

- Bristow Indian Community Center  
710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center  
1020 N. Brown St.

#### Mcintosh District

- Eufaula Indian Community Center  
800 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center  
500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center  
Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center  
Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist) S. 250 Rd.

#### Muskogee District

- Muscogee Indian Community Center  
111 South Virginia

#### Okfuskee

- Okemah Indian Community Center  
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community  
602 S. Chickasaw

#### Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community Center  
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center  
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center  
8110 Highway 52

#### Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District

- Dustin Indian Community Center  
Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center  
224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center  
608 N. Creek St.

#### Tulsa District

- Glenpool Indian Community Center  
13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center  
8611 South Union

#### Wagoner District

- Koweta Indian Community  
30925 E. 141st St. S.